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45 SOUTH MAIN STREET

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PHONE 654-1822

Enoch Clark was one of the Entertaining high light attractions on the old "Heber Creeper" running up Provo Canyon at the turn of the 20th Century.

Mostly on week ends, one of the fun things, families could choose to do in the summer time, was to take their picnics and get on the "Heber Creeper" at the old Provo Railway Station and travel up 2nd west into Provo Canyon.

There were many stops to choose from: Heislet Hotel and Restaurant only 2 miles up the Canyon; or the Chinese Restaurant near Bridal Veil Falls; or Vivian Park; or L.L. Donnans Hotel, Restaurant and fish pond at Upper Falls; or Deer Creek Flat; or Wildwood; or Charleston; or clear up to Heber City, and thence to Midway's Luke's or Schneider's Hot Pots.

Enoch Clark made his normal living as a barber in a shop on North University Avenue in Provo, but on Sundays he would put on his conductors hat and take his 2 monkeys and banjo and get on the Heber Creeper. Enoch would strew sand on the floor of the "Heber Creeper" and do soft shoe dances on that sand. The monkeys would collect coins from the passengers and Enoch would recite comical poems, sing and play the banjo and do tricks to entertain the "Creeper" travelers during their slow trips up "The Canyon!" Families enjoyed the trip, entertainment, picnics and the cool canyon breezes on a hot summer day.

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Mr. _____ Sharp was also a conductor on the "Creeper." Phil McKenzie was often the engineer and he wore a black cap on his head and a black bandana hankerchief about his neck.

The old "Heber Creeper," chugged its way up the Canyon, puffing its wood or coal fired live steam belly on up those regular guage rails at slow but sure, liesurely pace, to its Heber Destination.

One could get off at most any place along the Provo River by previous arrangement with the conductor.

Vivian Park, in those days was operated by Johnny and Sheldon Carter and there was a dance pavillian and a duck pond with boats on it. People could rent the boats. Plenty of picnic spaces and grassy spots made for a wonderful relaxed summer day outing, for many a family such as the Thomas Hillier and JoAnna Louisa Davis Collins family of 910 West 100 North in Provo. This story is told by Detta L. Collins Green who lives in Heber, Utah with her son. She is now 85 plus yrs.

If any additional facts or pictures can be located of these people or places, please write R. Raymond Green, MD. P.O Box 126, Heber, Utah 84032

Note: (Enoch;s sister was Emmerette Clark and was crippled by a fall through a porch and she married a Mr. _____ Christensen who were parents of LaVar).

2nd Draft
2 Apr 1984

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